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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 2823  
PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 8038.0032**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Takayuki NIUYA et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 2823
	)	
Application No.: 09/658,193	)	Examiner: J. MALDONADO
	)	
Filed: September 8, 2000	)	
	)	
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR	)	Confirmation No. 2409
PRODUCING SEMICONDUCTOR	)	
DEVICE	)	

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed April 6, 2004, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment sections of this paper.

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SEP 07/01/2004*